(8) Follow-up action is taken up with the service providers, wherever deficiencies noticed in achieving the Quality of Service benchmarks.

Modernisation of post offices

1022. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to modernize all the post offices in the country with latest facilities etc.;

(b) if so, the number of post offices modernized during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09;

(c) the total investment to be made by Government on the modernization of post offices during 2009-10;

(d) whether Government plans to diversify post offices in other fields; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Modernization of post offices across the country with latest facilities is an ongoing process subject to availability of resources and technical feasibility.

(b) During the year 2007-08 and 2008-09, the Department computerized 1411 post offices and modernized 500 Post Offices.

(c) A sum of Rs. 287 Crores has been projected during 2009-10 for computerization and modernization of Post Offices.

(d) and (e) The Post Offices offer a diverse range of Communication, Information, Logistics and Financial Services. New products and services are introduced from time to time subject to feasibility.

Calls between cities without STD

1023. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that land line subscribers of Delhi and Mumbai can talk in between without any STD facilities; and

(b) if so, what is preventing the Government to extend identical facilities to other metropolitan cities like Chennai and Kolkata?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Landline customers of MTNL, Delhi and Mumbai can talk to each other without any STD facilities on level 95.

(b) No proposal for extending such facility to other metropolitan cities like Chennai and Kolkata is under consideration.

Pornographic websites

1024. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that pornographic websites are having an adverse effect on our culture and especially on our children;

(b) if so, the details of measures Government is taking or proposes to take to ban pornographic websites in the country as many countries have already banned these websites; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Information Technology Act, 2000 & The Information Technology Amendment Act, 2008 together with the Indian Penal Code, 1860 provides legal framework for countering misuse of websites in the country. Section 67 and 67A of the Information Technology (Amendment) Act 2008 provides for publishing or transmitting of obscene material as an offence. Further, Section 67B addresses offences related to Child Pornography. These Sections provide strict punishment in the form of imprisonment and fine.

(c) Does not arise.

Securing Wi-Fi connections

1025. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking or proposing to take measures to secure Wi- Fi connections, so that these cannot be used by terrorists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) In order to restrict the use of Wi-Fi Internet connectivity by unauthorised persons, Government has issued instructions on 23.02.2009 to all Telecom Service Providers for the secure use of Wi-Fi Internet Services including centralized authentication mechanism for Wi-Fi Internet Connectivity.